(ग) और (घ) बौद्धिक सम्पदा अधिकारों के व्यापार पहलुओं से संबंधित (ट्रिप्स) करार में ट्रिप्स परिषद् द्वारा 1 जनवरी, 2000 के बाद इसकी समीक्षा किए जाने का प्रावधान है।

VRS scheme for Central PSUs

*217. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for more attractive Voluntary Retirement Scheme for Central Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of the same;

(d) the total number of workers likely to be covered under the scheme and financial implications thereof; and

(e) the total number of persons covered under VRS during the past five years; Central PSU-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (d) The Finance Minister, in the Budget Speech had announced a liberalised Voluntary Retirement Scheme as follows:

> "....To make the compensation package attractive, it is proposed to make applicable the benefits of VRS package, namely 45 days wages for each completed year of service, subject to the maximum wage or salary accruable on the basis of the balance of years of service left to all the workers of these public sector units. As a further improvement to the package, the workers of these units will also be eligible for a maximum of 60 months or 5 years salary or wages as compensation in the case of all those who have completed not less than 30 years of service. This would mean that all those who have put in more than 30 years of service will get more than the normal VRS. The other conditions of the VRS will apply and this offer will be made time bound. This scheme would cover employees in all PSUs.

(e) Information regarding number of employees who have opted for VRS in the last five years, till 31.3.98, is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 185, Annexure No. 42]

Reservation for SCs/STs in Government service and PSUs

*218 SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to make a special enactment with the provision of reservation for SCs/STs in Government service and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs); and

(b) if so, the steps taken to draft such law and to bring the bill in Parliament and State Legislative bodies as well?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MENAKA GANDHI): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Housing societies formed by BHEL

*219. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Housing societies formed by BHEL employees/officers since 1980 at Delhi alongwith names, designation of their promoters and office bearers;

(b) the number of members and the amount collected by each of the above housing societies and since when;

(c) the names and designations of the members who were granted full refund alongwith the amount so refunded; and

(d) the actions initiated by BHEL management against the employees who have mismanaged the funds of the members or swindled the funds?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (c) BHEL has not provided land for any Housing Society at Delhi. However, employees of BHEL can form Housing Societies on their own. According to the conduct rules of BHEL, it is not mandatory on the part of its employees to seek permission from the management of BHEL for formation of any such Society. Therefore, the information sought for is not available.

(b) It is reported that CBI had filed an FIR in a case relating to the floating of such a Society and took three employees of BHEL into custody. In accordance with its conduct rules BHEL suspended these employees.

Foreign direct investment in Infrastructure Sector

*220. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total Foreign Direct Investment made in India during the last three years;

(b) the break-up FDI between greenfield investment (new plants) and mergers and acquisitions during the three years;

(c) the amount invested in the infrastructure sector during the same period;

(d) the percentage of this investment i.e. the investment made in the infrastructure sector to the total amount invested in India through FDI since 1990; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the percentage of investment earmarked for infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) During the last three years (january 1996 to October 1998) Rs. 38635.42 crore of foreign equity has been invested in India.

(b) Out of the toal investment of Rs. 38635.42 crore made during this period, Rs. 4881.70 crore have been towards mergers and acquisitions and balance of Rs. 33753.72 crore has gone into green field projects.

(c) During this period, Rs. 16962.78 crore has been invested in the infrastructure and infrastructure related projects such as steel, power, coal, crude-petroleum, petroleum refinery products, cement, telecom services, transportation services, financial services etc.

(d) during the post-reform period (August 1991 till October 1998) around 44 per cent of the total Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has gone into the aforesaid sectors.

(e) Government have taken major policy initiatives to promote FDI in the core/ infrastructure sector.

* Coal & lignite and petroleum sectors have been de-licensed from the purview of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.
* Foreign Equity upto 100% in the Power Sector for electric generation, transmission and distribution has been made eligible for automatic approval subject to a ceilling of Rs. 1500 crore.
* Plan outlay for infrastructure sector enhanced by 35%.
* Government has announced GMPCS Policy, which permits Foreign Direct Investment upto 49% for satellite based telecom services.
* Licensing period for mobile/cellular services has been extended from 10 years to 15 years.
* An attractive package of fiscal incentives has been put in place for oil exploration projects.
* The Central Government has extended counter guarantee for 3 new power projects.
* Power transmission as an independent activity has been permitted and infrastructure status has been granted to transmission.